



Objection 370

Tunstall Square Traders Association

2 pages

Dear committee,

The Tunstall Square Traders Association represents the interests of its member businesses in Donvale's Tunstall Square precinct. Tunstall square is the dominant shopping precinct in Donvale, frequented by the vast majority of Donvale Residents. Our members include grocery stores, travel agents, florists, and a huge variety of small businesses.

We are writing to express our concern that portions of the suburb of Donvale have been placed within the Electorate of Deakin.

A part of our purpose is to represent our traders' policy concerns and interests, at a local, state, and federal level.

We have written this submission because the decision to place portions of Donvale within Deakin is contrary to the interests of our traders and our community, and makes our job representing Donvale traders harder.

Specifically, the AEC's proposed change would mean:

1. Our traders would live in two separate electorates;
2. Our Association would need to Liase with two separate federal members to advocate for our traders
3. Manningham City Council, which collects rates to fund our body, would in majority lie in the electorate of Menzies, while our traders and customers would in majority lie in Deakin. Since Manningham and Menzies are an LGA-Electorate pair, excluding Donvale from this pairing would damage our ability to advocate effectively.

We understand that the interests of our traders are not the only interests at play in Donvale. To assist the AEC in understanding the need to reverse their decision to place Donvale in Deakin, we therefore are also providing a shortlist of broader reasons not to place Donvale within Deakin.

Reasons Donvale should not be placed in the electorate of Deakin:

- Donvale benefits from being a part of the same electorate as the majority of Manningham City Council.
 - Having the same federal representative as the rest of the council improves the ability of the people in Donvale to access grants, funding for projects and attention to its issues.
- Donvale is linked to Doncaster, not Ringwood, via Doncaster Road.
 - The Eastern is a major highway, people do not like to go on it for shopping runs, going to the doctor, and other day to day to activities. Driving along Doncaster Road is easier.
 - As many residents commute to the CBD for work, Doncaster is a convenient stop on the way home.
 - As residents commute to the CBD for work, they tend to use the Eastern Freeway, which is being negatively impacted by the North-East Link. The Link is the most important local issue not just for Donvale but for the whole of Manningham.
- As a green suburb, Donvale should be represented in the same electorate as other green suburbs, such as Templestowe, Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Wonga Park.
 - These green suburbs are an incredibly strong community, they need to stay together. Deakin is not a green seat, except for Warranwood. There is actually a

strong case to be made to include Warranwood in Menzies on this basis, as was previously the case.

Donvale should also not be split as a suburb. The AEC is telling us that a portion of Donvale should be in Menzies, and a portion in Deakin, demarked by Springvale Road. This is a bad idea in and of itself. The proposed change would mean.

- Donvale to the East of Springvale Road is not different to Donvale West of Springvale Road in many places.
 - There are green areas with large blocks to the West of Springvale Road, and average suburban residential areas to the East of Springvale Road. Springvale Road does not neatly divide Donvale into a suburban section and green section. We believe this is what the committee attempted to do.
- Eastern Donvale makes use of Tunstall square for shopping, services, and Donvale Reserve for Recreation. These would both be in Menzies, while Eastern Donvale would be in Deakin. Eastern Donvale would lose the ability to have a say on the representative that makes the decisions relevant to its main shopping and recreation precincts.
- Major routes of transport are not materially different between the Eastern and Western areas of Donvale, so it is hard to justify putting them into two separate electorates on that basis.
- East Doncaster Secondary college would have its zone split between two electorates, as would Milgate Primary, and Donvale Primary.

Overall, Donvale should not be split into two electorates, as it is one solid community. Donvale should also not in any part be included in Deakin, as it is a green area that orients towards Doncaster, not Ringwood.

We sincerely request that the committee take our arguments and request into account when amending the draft boundaries.

Sincerely,

Irene Goonan,

Tunstall Traders Association, Donvale

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